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## House Looks Into U.S. Aide and Anti-Sandinistas

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Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Aug. 16 — The chairman of a House subcommittee with jurisdiction over Latin American affairs wrote a letter to the White House today asking for all records about the involvement of a National Security Council official with the Nicaraguan rebels in the last year.

The letter, from Representative Michael D. Barnes, Democrat of Maryland, head of the Western Hemisphere subcommittee of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, concerned the activities of Lieut. Col. Oliver L. North.

Mr. Barnes also said in his letter that "it would be stretching the integrity of the law to suggest" that the involvement did not violate the letter or the spirit of the law that prohibited involvement with the rebels.

The letter was addressed to Robert C. McFarlane, President Reagan's national security adviser, and was delivered tonight.

### White House Acknowledges Role

Last week, the White House acknowledged that Colonel North, who is a deputy director for political-military

affairs on the National Security Council, had been helping several rebel groups plan some operations and raise private funds. A senior Administration official also said Colonel North, a marine, had provided "tactical influence" on rebel military operations.

President Reagan and other senior officials defended the involvement, saying it violated no laws.

Information about Colonel North's activities was first published in The New York Times. But in the report, on Aug. 8, his name was withheld at the request of the White House. A spokesman said that publishing the name would endanger his life.

The same request was later made to other news organizations. The Washington Post, however, published Colonel North's name on Sunday, and other news organizations have since done so.

The colonel, 42 years old, is described as a close aide to Mr. McFarlane.

Mr. Barnes's letter says that "in order to clarify the circumstances surrounding Colonel North's activities" the subcommittee requests that the White House "provide Congress with all information, including memoranda

and any other documents, pertaining to any contact between Lieutenant Colonel North and the Nicaraguan rebel leaders as of enactment of the Boland Amendment in October 1984."

### Prohibitions in Amendment

The Boland Amendment, the letter notes, "prohibited the Central Intelligence Agency, the Department of Defense, or any other agency or entity of the U.S. involved in intelligence activities from supporting the rebels."

The letter also says that "Congress's intent in passing the Boland Amendment was to distance the United States from the Nicaraguan rebel movement while the Congress and the nation debated the appropriateness of our involvement in Nicaragua."

"The press reports" on Colonel North's activities, the letter says, "suggest that despite Congress's intent during this period, the United States provided direct support to the rebels."

On Thursday, Fred Wertheimer, president of Common Cause, the Washington-based lobbying group, wrote to the chairman of the Senate and House intelligence committees, calling for investigations of Colonel North's work with the rebels.